

Patent
Serial No. 09/992,921

Amendment in Reply to Final Office Action of September 8, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Office Action dated September 8, 2006. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 4-8 were pending in this application. Claims 9-20 are added by this amendment. Claims 1, 4 and 8 are independent claims.

In the Office Action, Claims 1 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,240,240 to Nagano ("Nagano") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,307,173 to Yuen ("Yuen"). Claims 4 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Nagano in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,187,589 to Kono ("Kono").

Kono is cited for allegedly showing "the act of overlapping programs of he list are visually ordered as being in the foreground and in the background, respectively, and that the program in the foreground has a higher priority (Fig. 2; col. 2, lines 10-24)." (See, Final Office Action, page 5, lines 9-17.) However, Kono shows that an overlapping portion of a program (e.g., see, FIG. 2,

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program 3ch) covers completely any overlapped portion of an overlapped program (e.g., see, FIG. 2, program 2ch).

It is respectfully submitted that the method of Claim 1 is not anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of Nagano in view of either of Yuen or Kono. For example, Nagano in view of either of Yuen or Kono does not disclose or suggest, a method that amongst other patentable elements, comprises (illustrative emphasis provided) "displaying programs or parts of programs overlapping in time as partially overlapping such that the length and position of an overlapping and overlapped bar still indicates the duration and time of transmission of the corresponding program" as required by Claim 1, and as substantially required by each of Claims 4 and 8.

Based on the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claims 1, 4 and 8 are patentable over Nagano in view of either of Yuen or Kono and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Claims 5-7 and 9-20 respectively depend from one of Claims 1, 4 and 8 and accordingly are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of said claims. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

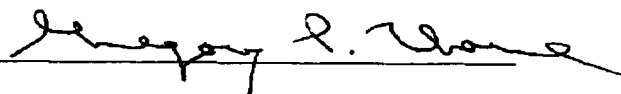
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In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

Applicant has made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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